

Florida's Statewide Water Conservation Initiative – Planning to Meet Future Demands

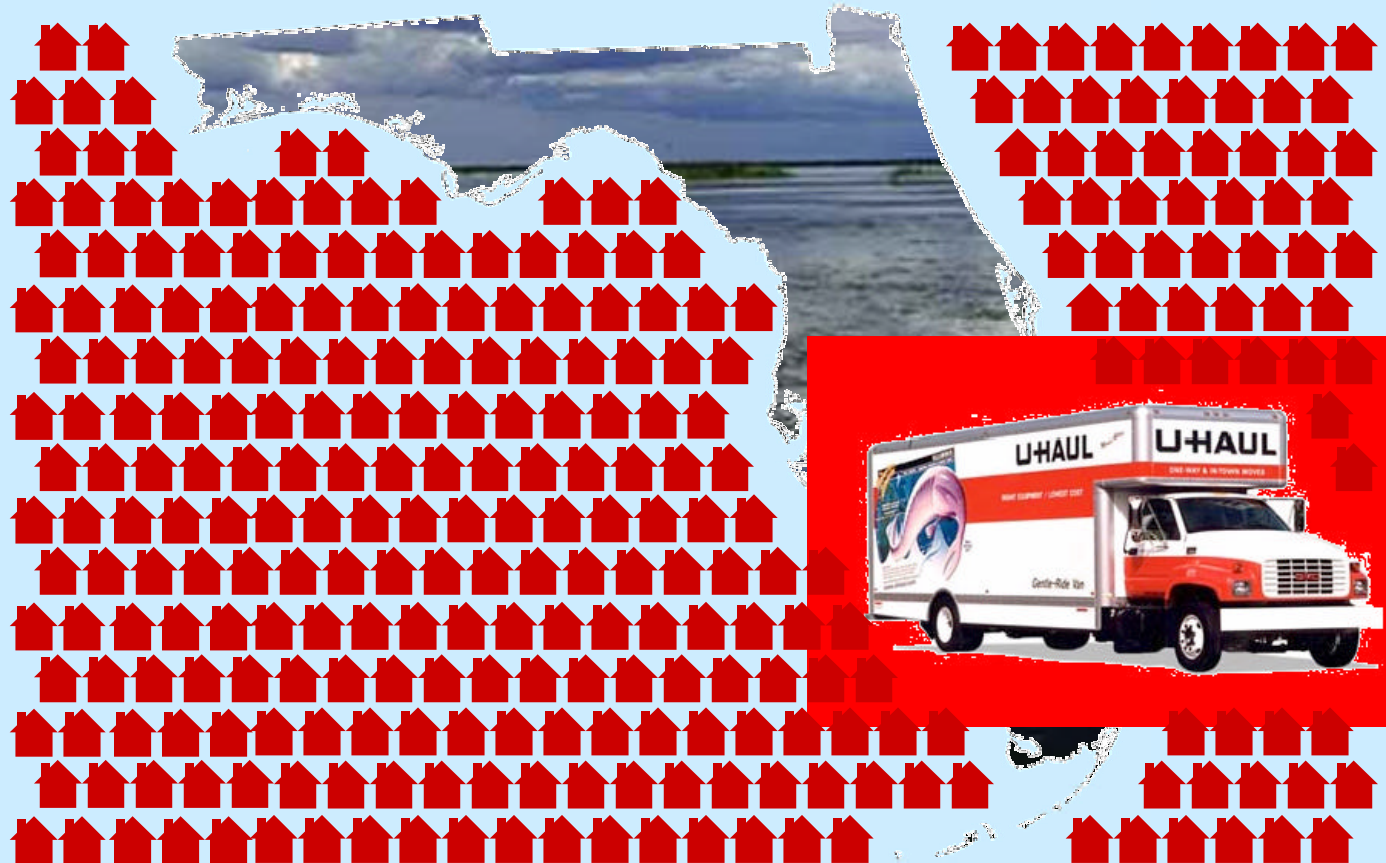
Mellini Sloan
FDEP Office of Water Policy



Florida Chapter of the
American Planning Association
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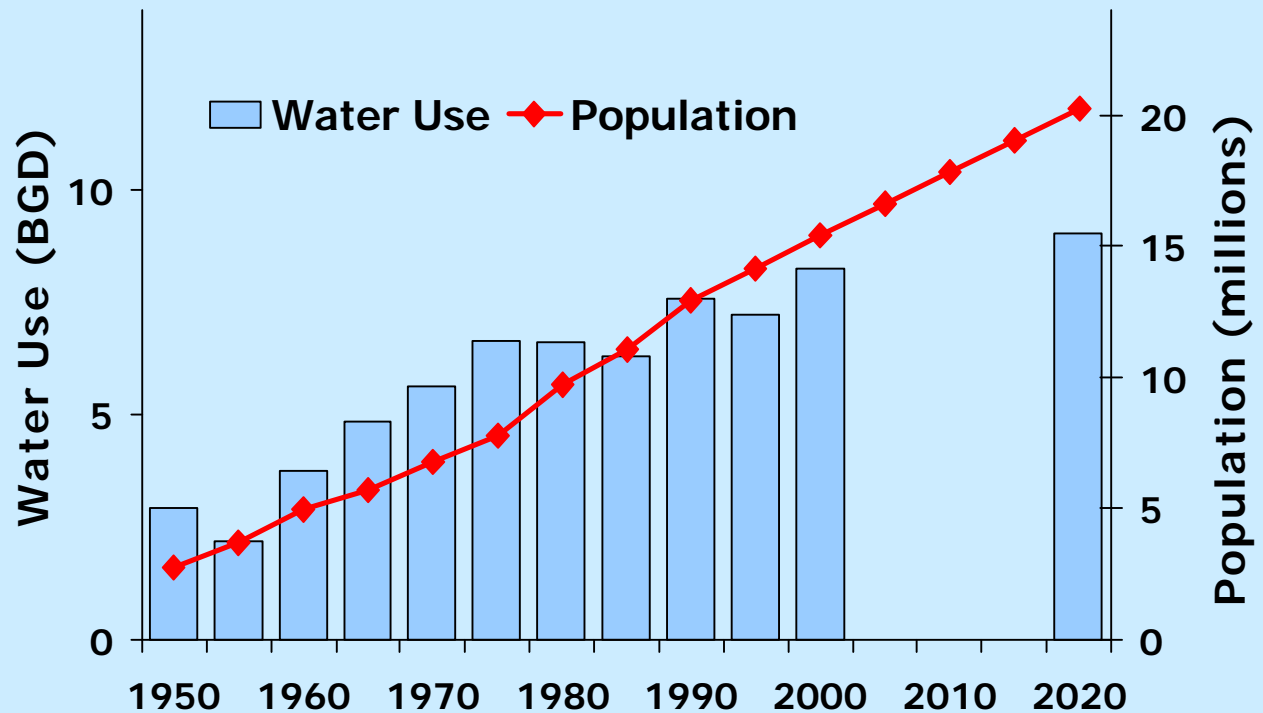


Why Should Floridians Conserve Water?



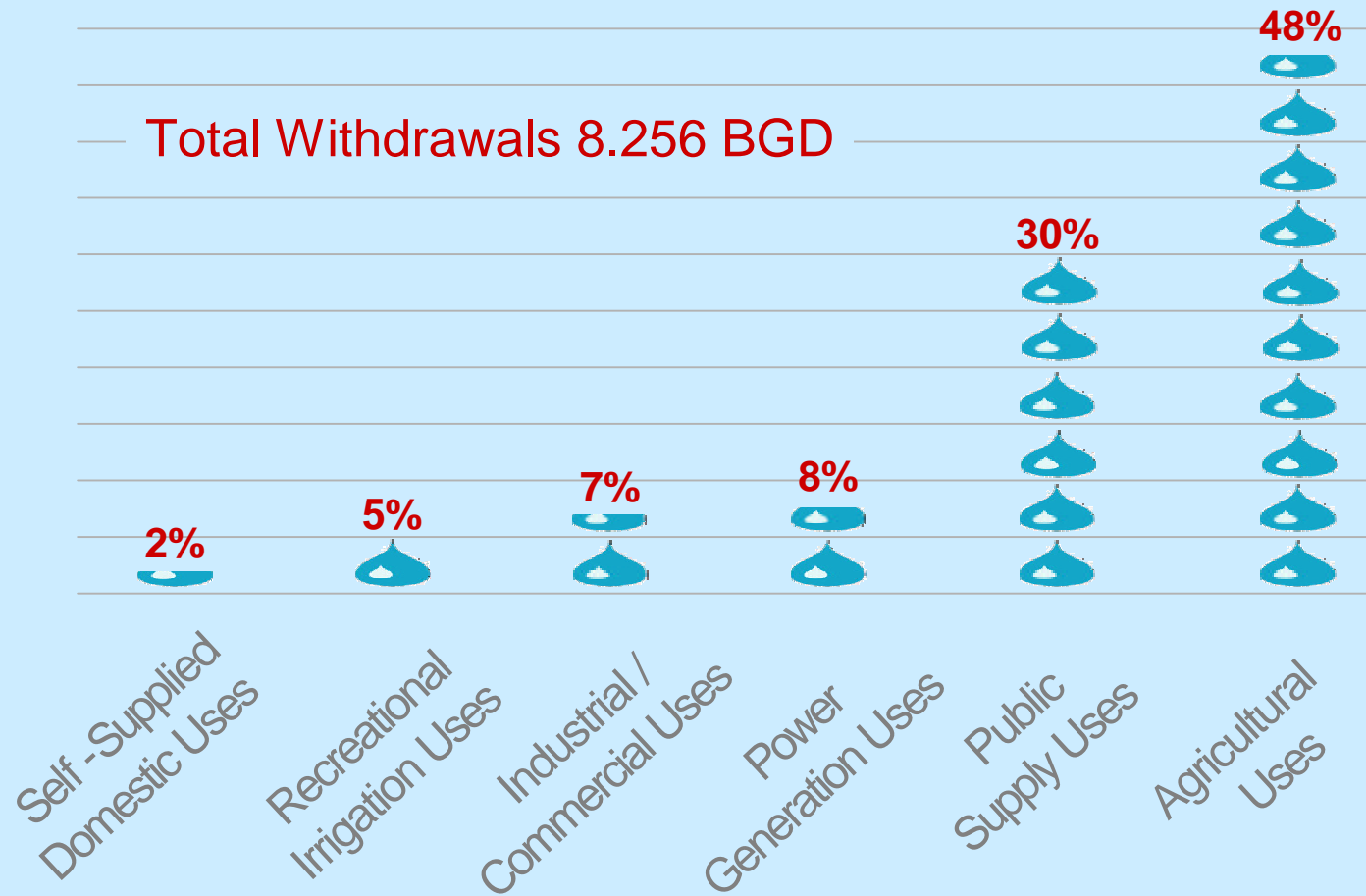
Why Should Floridians Conserve Water?

- Demands are growing: by 2020 expect a 26% increase from 1995.





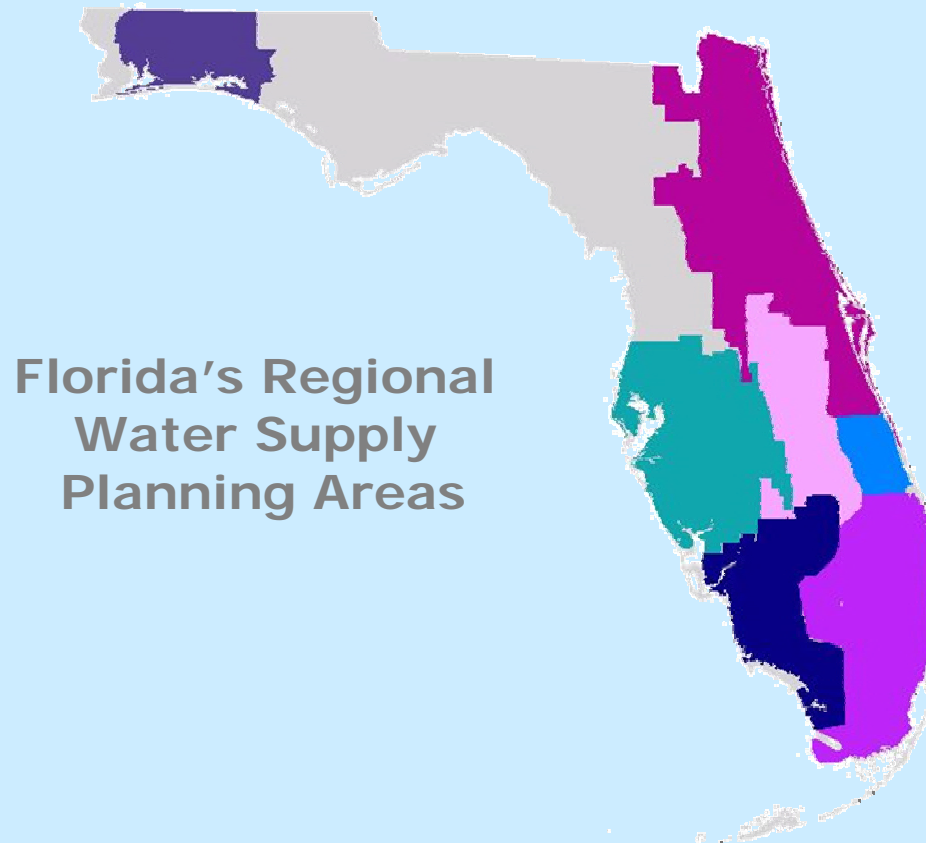
Fresh Water Withdrawals by Water Use Sector (2000)





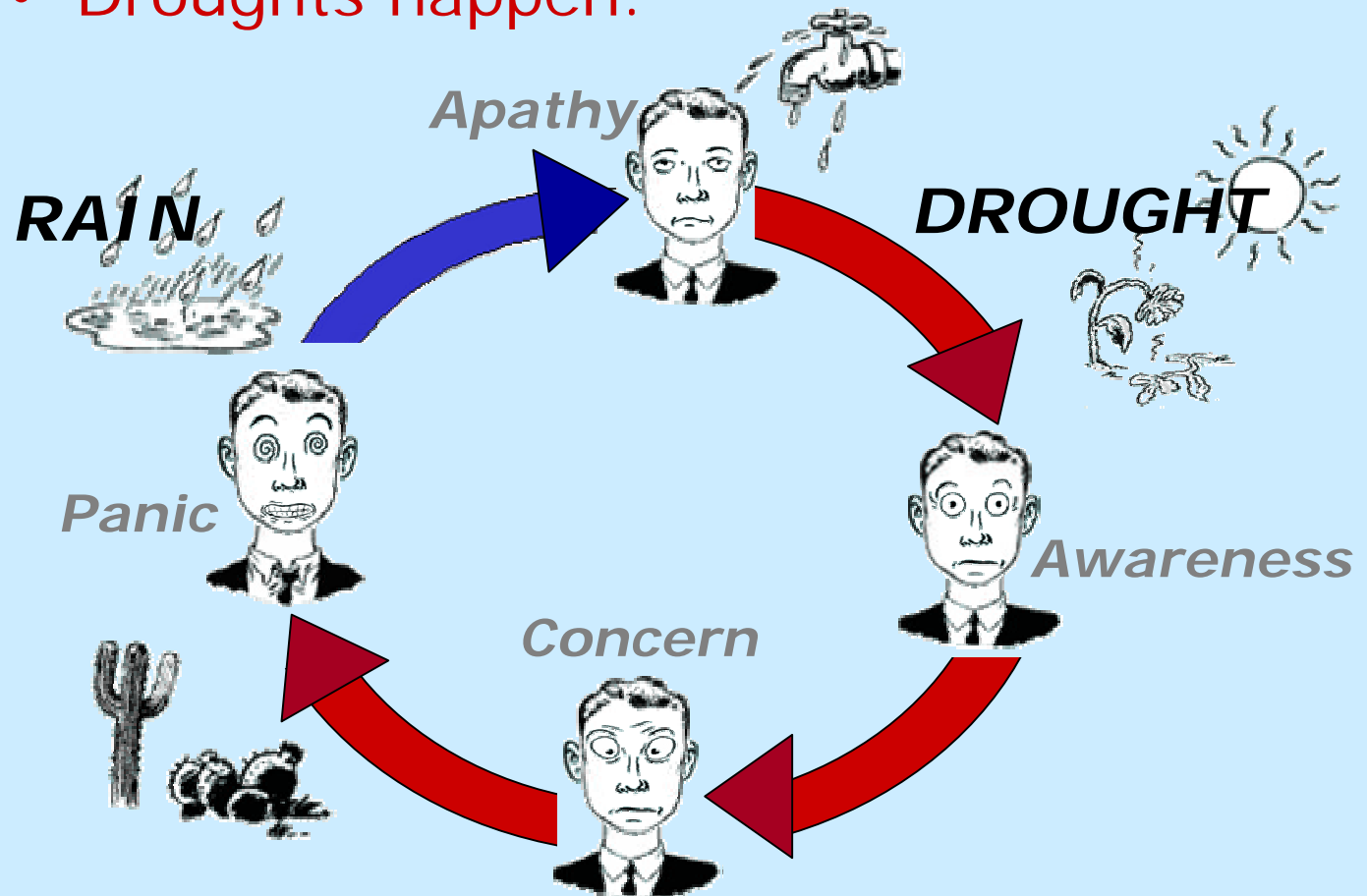
Why Should Floridians Conserve Water?

- Traditional supplies are limited.



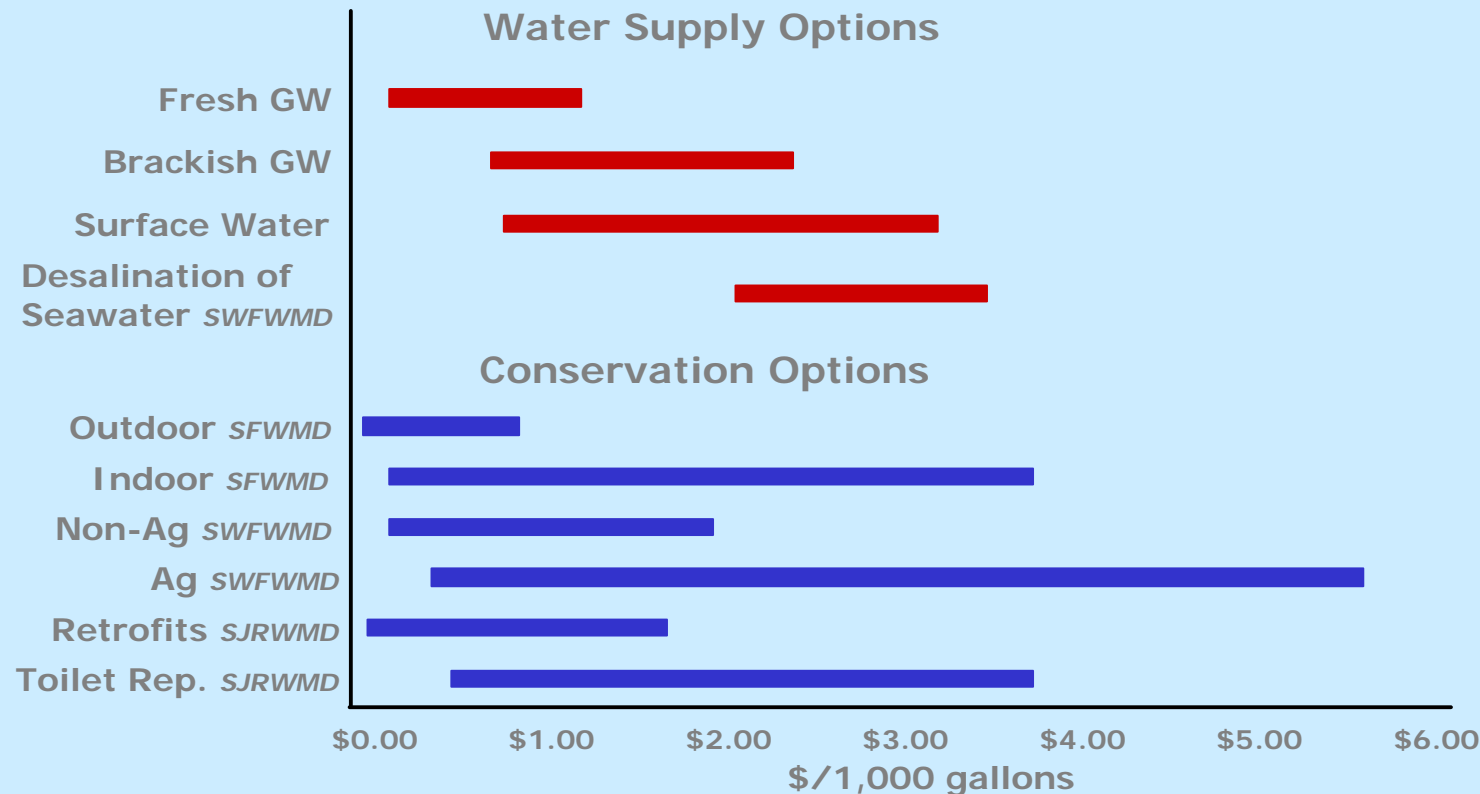
Why Should Floridians Conserve Water?

- Droughts happen.



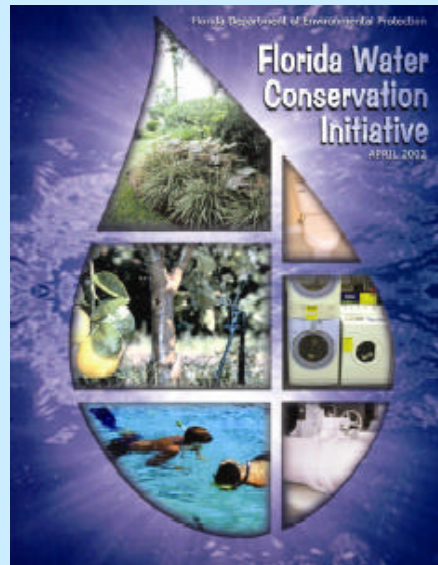
Why Should Floridians Conserve Water?

- Higher costs of alternative supplies.



Florida Water Conservation Initiative

- FDEP - Preventing and reducing wasteful, uneconomical, impractical, or unreasonable use of water resources



A young child with dark hair and bangs is drinking from a water fountain. The child is wearing a red shirt. The water fountain is a standard outdoor type with a circular basin and a spout. The child's face is close to the water, and they are looking down at it.

Origin and Direction of the Water Conservation Initiative

- Spurred by the Governor's Drought Action Plan (2001).
 - Charged with developing recommendations to improve water use efficiency through *significant*, *permanent*, and *cost-effective* means.
 - Cooperative effort of DEP, WMDs, FDACS, PSC, and DCA.
 - Built on existing expertise and efforts.
 - Depended upon input from stakeholder groups and general public.
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Water Conservation Initiative Start-Up

- Workgroups
 - Agricultural Irrigation
 - Landscape Irrigation
 - Water Pricing
 - Industrial / Commercial / Institutional Uses
 - Indoor Water Use
 - Reuse of Reclaimed Water





Water Conservation Initiative Work Group Initial Tasks

- What Were We Looking For?
 - Major improvements in water use efficiency.
 - Means to ***use less water*** while achieving the ***same beneficial purposes***.
 - Solutions that rely on improved technology and ***Best Management Practices***.





Water Conservation Initiative Work Group Initial Tasks

- **Process**
 - Identified potential measures
 - Stakeholder review and discussion of proposed measures
 - Determination of feasibility and benefit of individual measures
 - Amount of water saved
 - Cost effectiveness
 - Ease of implementation
 - Prioritization of options
 - Identification of next steps





Water Conservation Initiative Recommendations

- 51 Recommendations
 - 22 High priority
 - 20 Medium priority
 - 9 Low priority
- Multiple Sectors
 - Agricultural Irrigation
 - Landscape Irrigation
 - Industrial/Commercial/Institutional Uses
 - Indoor (Domestic) Uses
 - Reuse of Reclaimed Water



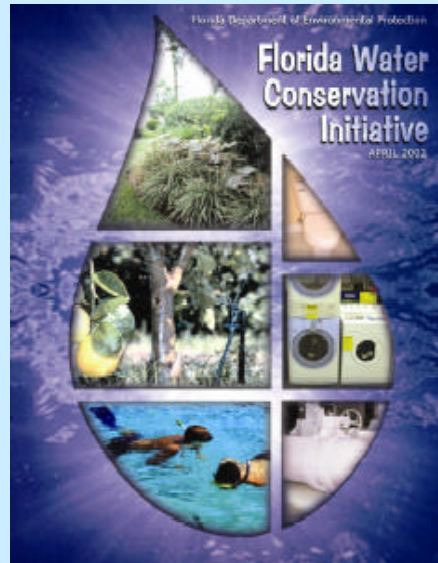
Moving to Implementation of Initiative Recommendations

- Partnerships between Parties with Interests in Water Conservation
- Identification of Funding Sources to Meet Needs
- Refinement of Statutes/Rules (State, WMDs, PSC) and Ordinances (Local) to Reflect Goals and Future Directions
- Modification of Existing Programs to Facilitate Implementation of Strategies



Florida Water Conservation Initiative

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waterpolicy>



Mellini Sloan

FDEP Office of Water Policy

mellini.sloan@dep.state.fl.us